Q:107

Mr. *George Oldner's*

INVENTION

TO

Preserve SHIPS

FROM

Foundering, or Sinking, at Sea, *&c.*

Experimented & Approv'd,

And Now Propos'd for the Universal Good of

All Nations concern'd in Navigation.

As appears by the following

PROPOSAL.

LONDON,

Printed by *F. Collins*, in the *Old-Baily*, 1698.

And are to be had, *gratis*, at Mr. *George Oldner's* in *Thames-Street* near *Trigg-Stairs*, and at Mr. *Andrew Prime's*, (the Patentees) at the *Red Bull* in *Budge-row*; and at *Robin's* Coffee-house in *Exchange-Alley*, *London.*

Mr. George Oldmixon's

INVENTION

Perfect SHIPS

Demonstrated, &c.

Communicated to Mr. Appleton,

Professor of Mathematicks.

LONDON:

Printed for Tho. Cockerill, at the Three Legs in the Old-Bailey, 1698.

Shipping Preserv'd

FROM

Foundering, or Sinking, at Sea,

OR, IN

Bays, Harbours, Rivers, *or* Creeks, *&c.*

BY *an* INVENTION, *which has been Experimented and Approv'd, as appears by the Certificate inserted in the following Proposal, under the Hands of several Merchants of Great Note, Worth, and Eminency in the City of* London, *who are themselves considerable Owners in, and Builders of, many Ships and Vessels; as also of several Commanders of Ships, being Men of great and long Experience, Skill, and Judgment in the Nature and Building thereof, for many Years; to be a real, practicable, and necessary Contrivance, greatly wanted in all Ages past, and now attain'd to, by* Mr. George Oldner, *of* London, *Merchant: By which said Invention Shipping, Merchandise, and Mens Lives, will certainly and effectually be preserved, far better than by any Method that has hitherto been known, from all Dangers occasion'd by such Accidents and Defects as are particularly, and at large, set forth in the following Proposal,* viz.

The Invention experimented by Persons of Note, and the Advantages thereof.

WHEREAS His Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to grant his Royal Letters Patents to *George Oldner* and *Andrew Prime*, of *London*, Merchants; for the sole Use and Benefit of an Invention or Contrivance applicable to *Shipping* of all sorts, already built, or hereafter to be built, as well His Majesty's Navy Royal as all other Trading Ships and Vessels; which the said *George Oldner*, by many Years Experience in Shipping, long and mature Consideration, and large Expence of Time and Money, hath now perfectly attain'd unto; by the benefit whereof all sorts of Ships and Vessels so fortified, will with all the Certainty imaginable, be effectually preserv'd from *Foundering or Sinking at Sea, &c.* occasion'd,

The Preamble of the Patent obtain'd.

The Invention attain'd applicable to Ships already built, as hereafter to be built. The Benefit and Certainty thereof.

1*st*, By *Worm-holes*, want of good Cawking, or decay of Cawking, decay of Bolts, Trunnels, or Planks.

Or, the springing or starting of Planks, or the Butts of Planks, or of Hudd-ends, *&c.* which frequently happens by Ships labouring in the Sea.

The Use of the Invention at Large particularized.

2*dly*, By any sort of *Leaks*, which would otherwise immediately sink them, notwithstanding the extream continual Labour and Help of Men and Pumps, as is now done, tho' often in vain, little of either being here requir'd to enable them, at least, to keep the Sea till they can make some Port or Harbour: Which *Leaks*, to

Ships preserv'd from sinking by any sort of Leaks, &c. and the same discover'd and mended, and the Ships stronger.

to all Ships and Veſſels ſo common and fatal, by this Invention will, with but very little Care, common Skill, and moderate Labour, be effectually prevented, or eaſily diſcover'd and mended. The Ships alſo, by the ſame, will be more tight and ſtrong, to endure all Storms or Accidents that they are liable unto.

Mens Lives, Goods, &c. preſerv'd from damage by Water, and His Majeſty's Cuſtoms encreas'd.

3*dly*, By means of this *Invention*, Ships and Veſſels being preſerved, as aforeſaid, not only the Lives of the Seamen and Paſſengers are likewiſe at the ſame time ſaved, but the Stores, Proviſions, Ammunition, Goods and Merchandiſe are for the moſt part ſecur'd from Damage, the prevention of which will greatly augment His Majeſty's Cuſtoms; which Damages otherwiſe unavoidably accrue, by Water entring ſuch Ships or Veſſels.

The Diſtempers and Evils occaſion'd by the Bilge-water, (as is the Opinions of Naval Surgeons) prevented by the Ships being perfectly freed from the ſaid Bilge-water.

4*thly*, The many Diſtempers and Contagions which *Seamen* and *Paſſengers* are incident to in long and tedious Voyages, and more eſpecially in hot Countries, oftentimes occaſioning ſo great a Sickneſs and Mortality, that there are ſcarcely Hands left to bring home the Ship, by reaſon of the Putrifaction and poyſonous ſtench of the Bilge-water, whoſe ſubtle and ſecret Infection is the prime and general Cauſe thereof, according to the *Opinions* and *Judgments* of ſeveral eminent Naval Chyrurgeons; as appears by a printed Paper lately produc'd to the Parliament, tho' the Men on board may not diſcern it: Which common and fatal Evil will by this means be certainly and eaſily prevented, by freeing all ſuch Ships and Veſſels from the ſaid Bilge-water, and keeping them perfectly ſweet and clean: The Advantages and unſpeakable Benefits of which, further appears in a True Copy of the ſaid printed Paper, which is as followeth, *viz.*

An exact Copy of the ſaid Surgeons Certificate.

THESE are to Certifie whom it may concern, That we whoſe Names are under-written, are very well aſſur'd, that the odious Stench in Ships, ariſing from the Bilge-water, is not only pernicious and deſtructive to the Health of the Men, eſpecially in Hot Countries and long Voyages, but oftentimes produces Contagious Diſtempers, to the Ruin of many Mens Lives on Shipboard. Whereupon, we do verily believe, That an Invention capable of effectually preventing or purifying the ſame, will not only be of Singular Advantage to His Majeſty and the Merchants, but an Unſpeakable and Univerſal Benefit to all concern'd in Sea-affairs.

Atteſted by Us, Naval-Surgeons,

James Waſſe,	Gerrard St. Clare,	J. Cloake,
John Kent,	Tho. Vigures,	And. Martin,
Archibald Arthur,	John Gill,	Tho. Tuker,
Hen. Batchelor,	James Lauther,	Chr. Brown,
Edward Tanner,	Rich. Springall,	J. Boinough,
Chr. Robinſon,	P. Heart,	Cary Rocheſter,
Rich. Griffis,	Alex. Kilpatrick,	Will. Lake,
Richard Boare,	W. Angus,	Jn° Tomkins,
Alex. Innes,	Robert Forbes,	Hugh Munro,
William Douglas,	Si. Aſhton,	Jn° Cholmeley.

5*thly*,

5thly, By Damage occaſion'd to Shipping by great Shot, or by their ſtriking or running upon Shoals or Sands (unleſs at once broke to pieces) from which Damages they will be more effectually preſerv'd, than by any means hitherto known; or, at leaſt-wiſe, Time may be gain'd for ſaving the Cargo, and the Mens Lives.

Ships better preſerv'd from Damages by great Shot or by ſtriking upon Sands, &c.

6thly, By means of this Invention, Water ſhipt from aloft, and by that way entring the Hold of the ſaid Ship, wil eaſily and much more effectually be diſcharg'd, than by any means now commonly practis'd or known: And alſo any ſorts of Leaks, which for many Voyages have lain hid and undiſcover'd, will readily be found out and mended.

Water entring the Hold from aloft diſcharg'd, and hidden Leaks diſcover'd and mended.

7thly, This *Invention* is ſo contriv'd, that it will take up but very little room, and require very little Labour, not at all hindering the ſailing, nor Stowage of Goods in Ships or Veſſels; not difficult, and but of ſmall charge to be done; is very durable and laſting, no ways interfering with the Shipwrights or Carpenters, but in many caſes facilitating their Work and Buſineſs. By means whereof Trade and Commerce, Travel and Navigation, will greatly be ſecur'd, enlarg'd, and encourag'd, and thereby become an Univerſal Benefit and Advantage to all *Crowns*, *Kingdoms*, and *States* concern'd in Navigation, and to all Sea-faring Perſons and Marine Dealings: For want of which *Invention*, what Great Deſigns have miſcarried, what Immenſe Riches has the Sea ſwallow'd, and how many great and excellent Perſons have deplorably periſh'd? What Numbers of the King's Ships, of the *Eaſt-India*, *African*, *Levant*, and other Companies; beſides great numbers of other rich Trading-Ships and Veſſels have been loſt within theſe few Years paſt, together with the vaſt number of Men which have miſerably loſt their Lives in the ſame, many of which might certainly have been preſerv'd, had this *Invention* been then in practice; ſeveral remarkable Inſtances of which kind might be enumerated, but ſuch fatal Accidents being but too well *known* to moſt People, would here be too tedious and large to recite.

The conveniency, cheapneſs, and durability of the ſaid Invention.

Not interfering with the Shipwrights, &c.

Navigation, &c encourag'd to the advantage of all Nations concern'd therein.

The deplorable loſs for want of this Invention in Ages paſt and preſent, as to Men, Ships, and Cargo.

In conſideration whereof, the ſaid *George Oldner* and *Andrew Prime*, for the more effectual and ſpeedy putting in practice and carrying on the ſaid *Invention*, of ſo extenſive and univerſal a Good and Benefit to all Mankind, have already begun and made their Application to, and Treaty with His preſent Majeſty and the Admiralty; as alſo to the Court of *France*, and States of *Holland*; which latter have ſince ſent for the ſaid *George Oldner*, he offering to go (to receive a *Conditional Reward* upon his performing and making good what is here propos'd) and return in a Ship thus fortified, having ſuch a Breach, that Twenty of the beſt-known Pumps, tho' manag'd with as many Hands as can work them, ſhall not be able to ſave the Ship four or five hours together from *ſinking*; which yet by this *Invention* ſhall be done with the uſe but of two Pumps, ſtanding in as little room, and requiring as little ſtrength, as thoſe now generally us'd. And the ſaid *George Oldner* alſo offers, as a further confirmation thereof, That a Ship of two or three hundred Tun having great and dangerous Leaks and Breaches, yet by being thus fortified, may with ſafety to the *Ship*, *Men*, and *Cargo*, make a Voyage to and from the *Eaſt* or *Weſt-Indies*, &c. ſecur'd from Damages by ſuch Leaks or Breaches, and the other Accidents, Dangers, and Defects before mention'd.

The Motives to the Patentees for putting the ſame in practice

Their Treaty already begun with ſeveral Nations.

The States of Holland's Invitation to the Inventor, and his Offer to the States.

The performance of the ſaid Invention.

The Inventor's further Offer for confirmation.

The Patentees further Design to extend the same to all Nations in Europe.

And they the said *George Oldner* and *Andrew Prime* do also design and resolve, that the said *Invention* shall be further extended, by due and proper management, not only to the *Crowns*, *Kingdoms*, and *States* of *Europe* afore-mention'd, but also to *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *Spain*, and all other parts of the World interested and concern'd in Naval Affairs. And the more to facilitate, and the better to enable them to proceed in the Negotiation thereof, with the greatest Dispatch possible, they the said *George Oldner* and *Andrew Prime*, by the Advice and Entreaty of several Friends, have consented to divide the whole *Concern* and *Invention* into Six thousand parts or Shares, and to dispose thereof as hereafter is propos'd.

In order to which, the said Invention is divided into 6000 Parts or Shares.

Reasons why publick demonstration may not be given.

And the Nature of the said *Invention* being such, that it cannot admit of any publick demonstration, as to the manner how the same is perform'd, without discloſing the whole Secret; which tho' the Letters Patents oblige all the Subjects of *England* not to practice nor imitate the same, without License from the Patentees, yet other Nations may, without the Consent of the said Patentees, to the prejudice both of the Nation (our Shipping becoming more chargeable than theirs) and of the Patentees also, by their getting that *gratis* for which the Patentees and Proprietors presume and reasonably hope to have a Conditional and Suitable Reward for so great a Good, as well from Foreign as our Own Government.

Instead of an offer of a publick Experiment, a Certificate annex'd.

All which Reasons and Considerations have oblig'd the said Patentees, instead of an Offer of a Publick Experiment to annex the following Certificate of the great Universal Benefits, Truth, Conveniencies, and Practicableness of the same under the Hands of several Persons of known Worth and Credit, not doubting but that it, together with the said Persons themselves attesting the same, may suffice to answer and satisfie all the Scruples, Doubts, and Questions of any Ingenious Enquirers, whether Subscribers or others. The Persons that have sign'd the said Certificate, as well as the Patentees themselves, being Men of known Integrity and Honesty, as well as Judgment and Skill, in the Affairs of *Shipping*; and being for that end, by the Patentees, upon solemn Promises and Obligations of Secrecy, acquainted with the whole Matter; and having also seen an Experiment of the same, as is herein after-mention'd: All which, to the same effect, tho' not altogether in the same form, the *Sollicitor-General* reports, That an Affidavit was produc'd to him by one (who had depos'd before a *Master in Chancery*, where the same is filed) that he saw the Experiment made in the like manner: And the same also was seen and attested by the Builder of the Model, in which the Experiment was made, and likewise filed in *Chancery*, as aforesaid.

The Credit of the Inventor, and Persons attesting the certainty of the said Invention, not reasonably to be question'd.

An Affidavit of one who saw the Experiment of the said Invention, which is filed in Chancery; as likewise the attestation of the Builder of the Model.

Where a Copy of the Instruction to, and Report of the Solicitor-General, and other Papers of note, are to be seen, &c.

And they the said Patentees do assure all whom it may concern, that the Truth hereof is also further attested, as appears by a Paper containing a Copy of the Instructions to, and Report of the *Sollicitor-General*, upon the reference of the Petition from the *Lords Justices* in Council, for the Patent; which, with other Papers of note relating to the same, are to be seen or perus'd by any sober Person at Mr. *Andrew Prime's*, (one of the Patentees) at the *Red Bull* in *Budge-row*, *London*.

A True Copy of the Certificate, *sign'd by the Persons before mention'd, who saw an Experiment of the said Invention made, as followeth,* viz.

THIS is to Certifie all whom it may concern, That we whose Names are hereunto subscrib'd, have seen an Experiment of the Invention of Mr. George Oldner, *for the preventing Ships and Vessels from* Foundering or Sinking at Sea, *&c. in the Model of a Ship about six foot in length, upon the River of* Thames, *where it did float deep loaden, and, without all doubt, would have continued swimming for many Months, notwithstanding two large Breaches which she had on each side near the Keel: And had not the said Invention been affixed to the said Model, she must and would unavoidably have sunk down in a very few minutes space; and was only preserv'd from sinking by the said Invention. Which we being fully convinc'd by the reason of the thing, and Demonstration given, find it to be a* Real *and* Ingenious *Contrivance, and, we sincerely believe, will answer what is above propos'd, and be of great Use, Benefit, and Advantage to all Nations interested and concern'd in Navigation; and doth therefore very worthily deserve all due Encouragement and Esteem. Witness our Hands, in* November, 1698.

Note, That the said Model was built by a Scale, every Inch representing a Foot, and the whole representing a Ship of about 140 Tuns.

Sir William Ashhurst, *Knight, and Alderman, as also Member of Parliament for the City of* London.

Sir James Collet, *Knight, late Sheriff of the City of* London.

Sir Thomas Cuddon, *Knight, and Chamberlain of the City of* London.

Mr. Arthur Shallet, *Merchant, Member of Parliament for* Weymouth.

Mr. Thomas Lurting, *a* Virginia *Commander, and Surveyor of the building of many Ships.*

Mr. William Warren, *also late Commander, and Surveyor of the building of many Ships.*

Mr. Richard Haynes, *Merchant.*

Mr. Thomas Byfeld, *Merchant.*

Mr. Richard Oldner, *Coal-merchant, who made Affidavit of the said Experiment, which is filed in* Chancery.

Mr. John Webb, *Shipwright, and Builder of the said Model, whose Solemn Affirmation of the said Experiment is also filed in* Chancery.

Mr. George Oldner, *Junior.*

☞ Note, Sir William Ashhurst *not being well, and the Wind blowing very hard and cold, could not stay to see the Model loaden, as the others then did.*

☞ *Note*, That the Hands of many more Persons skill'd in Shipping might have been obtain'd; had it been thought convenient further to have entrusted the *SECRET*; but the *Testimonies* here given, 'tis presum'd, will be a sufficient demonstration to the World, that the said *Invention* is Real, Practicable, and Necessary; as by the many curious and nice *Objections* and *Queries* which were made by the Persons signing hereto, and which were distinctly and amply *Answer'd* to their entire satisfaction; And the said *Mr. Lurting*, and *Mr. Warren*, being so throughly convinc'd and confirm'd in the Certainty of the said *Invention*, that they voluntarily offer to go in a Ship of any burthen, having great and dangerous *Leaks* or *Breaches*, as aforesaid, (She being provided with this Invention) to the *Streights* or *West-Indies*, &c.

Theire-

Therefore all these Advantages, by means of this Invention, accruing in general to the Publick as well as Private Persons; and the Work, (to accomplish the same effectually, and to obtain all the Rewards, Encouragements, and Advantages due from all Nations to so Great and Certain a Good) being thought too great and too heavy to the said Patentees and the present Proprietors; and that their being thus advis'd and perswaded (as they really are) to offer to dispose of so many Parts or Shares of their said *Invention*, as in the following Proposal, (as well to strengthen their Hands with Men as Money, both being essential to carry on the same with Vigour and Dispatch, as aforesaid) is hoped cannot be justly term'd any Sinister or Self-ends in them, especially they being Men of known Reputation, Integrity, and Credit, who would not offer to the World either a slender or fruitless Proposal. Tho' at the bare hearing of the Nature, Use and Excellency of the said Invention, it may seem almost incredible for any Person to believe, yet when seen and understood, is immediately admir'd and esteem'd, even to an Astonishment and Wonder that the Thought should not have occurr'd for Ages past.

To obtain Advantages from all Nations, being too great a Work to the present Proprietors.

To take the Assistance of others, &c. no sinister Ends in them.

The Invention at first hearing, incredible; when known, astonishing.

So then as there need be no further Doubt or Question, but that this *Invention*, as it is real, will therefore be equally embraced and made use of in the Shipping of all Nations, so it will also raise large Profits to the *Patentees*, *Partners*, and *Subscribers*, it being so very beneficial, convenient, and necessary; which, besides the great Advantages already mention'd, there are many more which cannot be publish'd at present, without endangering the Secret; but this in short, That Shipping being so fortified and secured by this *Invention*, *Insurance* must consequently be more reasonable than it now is, and *Insurers*, *Owners*, and *Merchants* still greater Gainers; which, among the Profits that arise and accrue by means of the great and general Safety of this *Invention*, may be deem'd a Considerable Article. And as to some further Advantages, which may reasonably arise to all that shall subscribe or become Partners herein, take the following Scheme.

Real and necessary, therefore will be embraced.

As likewise profitable to all concern'd.

Insurance thereby made easier, and Insurers, Owners, &c. greater Gainers.

A Short View how, and from whence, the said PROFITS *and* ADVANTAGES *may arise, is as followeth,* (viz.)

Rewards from several Kingdoms and States, &c.

First, FROM His Majesty of *Great Britain*, and the other Princes and States, *&c. viz. France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Swedeland*, *Denmark*, the Princes of *Italy*, the States of *Holland* and *Venice*, *Genoua* and *Hamburgh*, *&c.* It being but reasonable to hope that a suitable and grateful Reward may justly be expected and obtain'd, especially since it is only propos'd Conditionally to the said several Governments; and the Invention, to admiration, being so demonstrably plain and obvious to all that have seen it, and will as certainly be so to all who may hereafter see the same, and beyond peradventure, will be so effectual in performing, that such Rewards may be therefore justly deem'd nothing less than a Certainty to all concern'd therein. Not that the Patentees will presume

Conditional.

The Invention demonstrable.

The Rewards deem'd certain.

ſume to aſſign or aſcertain the *Quantum* of ſuch Rewards, but the Merit of the Contrivance, being ſuch, that it may be modeſtly thought and expected the ſame will not be leſs, but more than what may double their preſent Eſtimate of the whole at Ten pound *per* Share.

Tho' the quantum is not aſcertain'd, yet is thought may double the preſent Eſtimate of the whole. At 10 *l. per Share.*

Secondly, From all the Subjects of *England* concern'd in Shipping, as the *Eaſt-India*, *African*, *Levant*, and other Companies, as alſo other Merchants and Owners, by vertue of the Powers and Priviledges granted to the Patentees, whereby they may by Agreement with the ſaid ſeveral Companies, Merchants, and Ship-Owners, *&c.* have reaſonable Recompence annually for directing and fitting their ſeveral Ships and Veſſels, according to this propoſed Invention, either by a Quantum *per* Ship or *per* Tun, *&c.* which the Owners of the Ships and Veſſels, as they may better afford, ſo they will, without all doubt, chearfully and readily pay, the Advantage that accrues hereby being ſo very great and manifeſt, and the Charge thereof but ſmall and inconſiderable.

From Subjects of England, *&c. by vertue of the Patent, &c.*

A Quantum per Ship or Tun may be well afforded, &c.

The Profit great, the Charge ſmall.

Or otherwiſe upon a due Application to the Parliament, to have the Quantum and Time aſcertain'd and confirm'd to the ſaid Patentees and their Partners.

Application to the Parliament

The Number of Tunnage of Shipping belonging to *England*, according to the Computation of Sir *William Petty*, printed in his *Political Arithmetick*, *Anno* 1691, amounting to Five hundred Thouſand Tuns; which at as reaſonable a rate as the Owners themſelves can fairly deſire or offer, would amount to ſuch a ſufficient Annual Income as the Patentees and their Partners can reaſonably deſire.

Tunnage of England 500000

Thirdly, Rewards from the ſeveral Merchants and Owners of Shipping in *Scotland*, *Ireland*, *New-England*, *New-York*, *Penſilvania*, and the other Engliſh Plantations, being as equally to be expected as from any other Kingdoms or States, from the latter of which a Promiſe of a Patent, by the Governour, is made to the preſent Patentees.

Rewards from Scotland, Ireland, *&c.*

Another Patens promis'd.

Fourthly, There is alſo great reaſon to hope and expect, that a Conſideration may be obtain'd from *France*, and the States of the *United Provinces*, not only for their Ships of War, but alſo from their Merchants Ships, by ſuch Powers and Priviledges as are in the like Caſes by them granted according to the Informations given us.

Rewards from France *and* Holland *expected by Priviledges uſually granted.*

And the like may be fairly expected from the Subjects of other Governments, whether Crowns or States.

As alſo from other Crowns and States, &c.

The Number of Tunnage of the Dutch Shipping, according to the ſaid Computation of Sir *William Petty*, amounting to Nine hundred Thouſand Tuns; and the Tunnage of the reſt of *Europe*, according to the aforeſaid Computation, being Six hundred Thouſand Tuns.

The Tunnage of Holland 900000.

Of the reſt of Europe, 600000.

A fifth part of the 4000 ſhares for a Stock.

And moreover, as a further *Advantage* to the Parties concern'd, Twenty *per Cent.* of the Four thouſand Shares, which upon the compleating of the Subſcriptions (hereby intended) will be a Stock of Eight thouſand Pounds, to be left to the management of the Committee mention'd in the following Propoſals, and will be to the Advantage and Benefit of all the Proprietors and Subſcribers, according to their ſeveral Intereſts.

The Shares now bona fide valu'd at 20 l. per ſhare, but propos'd at 10 l. purpoſely to encourage Subſcribers.

The Shares alſo propos'd at 10 *l. per* Share, which are by all, or at leaſt moſt that in any meaſure underſtand the Nature of the *Invention*, now really and *bona fide* valued at 20 *l. per* Share, and is not doubted but will be ſo, at leaſt, upon the final cloſing of the Books: Which Advantage is deſignedly and purpoſely left an Encouragement to all that ſhall become Subſcribers.

The Profits and Encouragements certain.

So that the ſummary View of Profits and Advantages here given, and the Patentees and Proprietors having already begun to make Treaties, as is before hinted, and there being ſuch an evident Demonſtration of the certainty of the Invention performing what is here propos'd, as appears by the Model and Certificate, and that the Profits will thereby certainly accrue, is thought ſatisfactory enough to remove all Doubts and Queſtions, whether the ſame will anſwer, as is by them ſet forth and expected, and be a ſufficient Encouragement to all Perſons that ſhall become Subſcribers or Partners herein.

The Encouragement of the Parliament, and all wiſe and honeſt Men, juſtly expected.

Upon the whole matter it may appear, by the Inſtances and Teſtimonies aforeſaid, that the ſaid *Invention* is Real and Practicable, the Uſe great, and of univerſal Good and Neceſſity; the Profits certain, both to the Publick, as well as to all that are or ſhall be concern'd therein; the *Patentees* honeſt, and ſincere in their Propoſal; a Conditional Reward from all Governments and States, *&c.* the Encouragement of the Parliament, as aforeſaid; and laſtly, the unanimous Concurrence of almoſt all Wiſe and Honeſt Men, but juſtly and deſervedly to be expected, in order to put the ſame into practiſe with all the ſpeed and good management imaginable: And for that end a Sum of Money being needful to be rais'd, it is by the ſaid Patentees Propos'd as followeth.

THE

THE

PROPOSALS

For Taking

Subſcriptions to this Invention,

VIZ.

I. THE Whole, according to the Settlement between the Patentees and preſent Proprietors, as enroll'd in *Chancery*, is divided into Six thouſand Parts or Shares, which are to be diſpos'd of in manner following.

The whole divided into 6000 Shares, as enroll'd in Chancery.

II. That Five thouſand Eight hundred of the ſaid Six thouſand Shares ſhall be diſpos'd of by Subſcription, at 10 *l. per* Share, and the remaining Two hundred Shares ſhall be ſubſcrib'd by the two Patentees, or either of them, without paying down any Money; and to be veſted in the ſaid Patentees, in Truſt, for the Uſes and Purpoſes herein after-mention'd and expreſs'd.

Whereof 5800 to be diſpoſed of by Subſcriptions at 10 l. per Share, and 200 in Truſt, as aftermention'd

III. That the Patentees and preſent Proprietors, or their Aſſigns, ſhall have free Liberty to ſubſcribe any number of the ſaid Five thouſand Eight hundred Shares, not exceeding Eighteen hundred in the whole, for the proper uſe of the ſaid Patentees and Proprietors, without paying down any Mony, and thereby be as equally entituled to them with all the Benefits and Advantages in this *Invention*, as if they had actually paid down Money for the ſame, all of them being reſolv'd to ſubſcribe, at leaſt, each his *Quota* of the ſaid Eighteen hundred Shares, and moſt of them many more, (as not eſteeming 10 *l. per* ſhare near the real Value thereof) And therefore do hereby promiſe and declare, that they alſo will retain their ſeveral Quota's of no leſſer a number than Twelve hundred Shares in the whole; and will not ſell nor diſpoſe of any thereof, until the Firſt Day of *January* 1699, unleſs by Advice and Conſent of the majority of the Committee hereafter to be choſen.

The preſent Proprietors have liberty to ſubſcribe 1800 Shares for their own uſe, with equal Advantages, paying down no Money, and eſteem 10 l. per ſhare not near the real value.

IV. That the Two hundred Shares veſted in the Patentees in Truſt, as aboveſaid, be diſpos'd of and apply'd to the Uſes following, (*viz.*) One hundred Shares thereof to the ſole uſe, benefit, and advantage of *Greenwich* Hoſpital, which at the compleating the Subſcriptions will be equivalent, at leaſt, to One thouſand Pounds in Money. One hundred other Shares of the ſaid Two hundred, be inveſted in the ſaid Mr. *George Oldner ſen.* Mr. *Richard Oldner ſen.* Mr. *Andrew Prime*, Mr. *John Knight*, and Mr. *George Oldner jun.* their Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, (as Truſtees) to be applied only for the ſole uſe and benefit of the Company of *Watermen*, for and towards the Educa-

100 Shares, (1000 l. value) for Greenwich Hoſpital.

100 more ſhares in Truſt (1000 l. in value) for the uſe of the Company of Watermen, &c.

Education of the Children of the Freemen of the ſaid Company, in *Engliſh*, *Writing*, and *Accompts*, as alſo ſuch parts of the *Mathematicks* as are or ſhall be neceſſary to Navigation; which alſo, at the compleating of the ſaid Subſcriptions, will be equivalent, at leaſt, to One thouſand Pounds in Money.

When, how long and where the Books are to be open'd for taking Subſcriptions, &c.

V. That the Books for taking *Subſcriptions* will be laid open on *Monday* the 9th of *January* next, at *Robin's* Coffee-houſe in *Exchange-Alley*, *London*, from Ten to Two, and from Four to Six a clock, and will be continued open until *Saturday* the 14th *Ditto* incluſive, unleſs the whole Six thouſand ſhares be ſooner ſubſcribed; but if any Shares, at the cloſing of the Books, ſhould be left unſubſcrib'd, then the Books ſhall be open'd again on *Monday* the 6th of *February* following, for compleating the ſaid Subſcriptions.

A fourth part of all Money ſubſcribed to be paid down, with 5 s. per ſhare diſcount to ſuch as pay the whole within 4 days after ſubſcribing.

VI. That Diſpatch being of the higheſt conſequence at this Juncture, to the ſervice of this great Undertaking, in reference to the Applications already made, and further to be made to the Governments both at home and abroad, and particularly to the *Parliament* here; all *Subſcribers* are to pay down to the *Patentees*, or their Caſhier, one Fourth part at the time of *Subſcribing*, and the remaining three Fourths at three ſeveral equal Payments, at every Fourteen Days after *Subſcription*, allowing Five ſhillings *per* ſhare diſcount to ſuch as ſhall pay down the whole at the time of *ſubſcribing*, or within Four Days after.

Receipts to be given by the Patentees, &c. for Money receiv'd, and an Inſtrument upon payment of the whole.

And, That for all and every the ſeveral Payments made of all Money ſo ſubſcribed, Receipts ſigned by the *Patentees*, or their Caſhier, ſhall be given: And when the whole Payments are made, the ſaid Receipts ſhall be delivered back, and an Inſtrument under the Hands of the ſaid Patentees ſhall be duly executed according to Law, and uſual Cuſtom in like Caſes, entituling ſuch perſons to as many Shares as they have *ſubſcribed* and *paid in* their Money for.

20 per Cent. to be reſerv'd a Stock to be manag'd by the Committee, which upon compleating the Subſcription, will be 8000l.

VII. That Twenty pound *per Cent.* of all Money ſo *ſubſcribed*, and *paid in*, for the ſaid Four thouſand Shares only, be reſerv'd, and accounted a Stock to negotiate and carry on all the neceſſary Affairs relating to this *Invention*; which ſaid Stock to be under the care of the Committee hereafter to be choſen, who are to appropriate and diſpoſe of the ſame when and after ſuch manner as they ſhall think moſt reaſonable and convenient, for promoting the general Profit and Succeſs of this Undertaking.

A Committee to be choſen by a general Meeting, within a month after the final cloſing the Books, of whom Seven to be a Quorum.

VIII. That within One Month after the Books are finally clos'd, of which publick Notice ſhall be given by the Patentees; a Committee not exceeding Twelve in number, the two Patentees included, ſhall be nominated and elected by the Majority of the Proprietors and Subſcribers to that end aſſembled, at a General Meeting: And, That a *Quorum* of the ſaid Committee ſhall conſiſt of any Seven or more of them, which ſaid Committee ſhall have power to manage and tranſact the whole Concern.

IX. That

IX. That none be qualified to be of the Committee, unleſs he hold at leaſt Ten Shares, in his own Name and Right: And if any Member of the ſaid Committee ſhall at any time part with ſo many Shares, as not to retain ſuch his *Quota*, he ſhall *ipſo facto* forfeit his Office. *Committeemen to hold Ten Shares, or forfeit their Office.*

X. That the two Patentees retaining Fifty Shares each in his own Name and Right, part of their Quota's of the Twelve hundred Shares, as in the 3d Article, ſhall always be of the ſaid Committee. *The two Patentees to be Committee-men whilſt each holds 50 Shares.*

XI. That every Proprietor and Subſcriber ſhall have One Vote, and none to have more than one Vote, in the Election of the ſaid Committee, which ſhall be Choſen on the Second *Thurſday* in *January* Yearly, after the Firſt Election. *All Proprietors &c. to have one Vote, none to have more than one Vote.*

XII. That the ſaid Committee ſhall meet as often, and at ſuch Time and Place as they ſhall appoint when elected; And that ſuch Allowance out of the Joynt Stock, as ſhall be made and agreed on by the General Meeting, be equally divided, and paid to ſuch of the ſaid Committee as ſhall attend accordingly. *An Allowance to be made to the Committee by a general Meeting.*

XIII. That the Books ſhall be made up at leaſt once in every Year, or oftner, if occaſion require; And, that Dividends be made within one Month following, proportionable to each perſon's number of Shares; And, that no Transferrs of any Parts or Shares be made, ſaving in the Book for that purpoſe to be provided, and kept by the ſaid Committee or their Secretary, &c. *The Books made up once a Year, or oftner, for Dividends.* *No Transferrs to be made, but in the Transfer Book.*

XIV. That at the Requeſt of any Twelve, or more, of the Parties concern'd, whether of the Proprietors, Subſcribers, or both, a General Meeting of all the ſaid Parties concern'd ſhall be call'd and appointed by the ſaid Committee, within Ten Days next after ſuch Demand made, and left by them in Writing under their Hands with the ſaid Committee, or their Secretary, for the final determination of all Matters which ſhall be laid before them. *Twelve or more may ſummon a general Meeting.* *The Demand to be left in Writing.*

XV. That all General Meetings may adjourn to ſuch time or times, place or places, within the Cities of *London* or *Weſtminſter*, as they, or the majority of them, ſhall ſee meet: And, that all future Vacancies in the Committee be fill'd up by a New Election, at a General Meeting of the *Proprietors* and *Subſcribers*, with Perſons qualified to be elected, in manner as aforeſaid. *The general Meeting may adjourn.*

XVI. That the *Proprietors* and *Subſcribers*, at a General Meeting, may Annually, or oftner, as occaſion requires, Chuſe and Appoint Three from among themſelves to be Auditors, at all ſeaſonable Hours to inſpect, examine, and make report of all the Accompts, Books, and Tranſactions of the ſaid Committee, as often as they ſhall ſee cauſe, for the full Satisfaction of All that are or ſhall be concern'd; and that the ſaid Auditors, while ſuch, ſhall receive ſuch Reaſonable Allowance out of the Joynt Stock aforeſaid, as ſhall be appointed *Who may Elect.* *Three Auditors to examine the Accompts, for a general ſatisfaction, &c. and make them ſuch an Allowance out of the joynt Stock as they think fit, &c.*

ted by the majority of the *Propritters* and *Subscribers* at a General Meeting.

XVII. That all Orders of the said Committee shall be binding upon all the Parties concern'd, subject nevertheless at all Times, and in all Cases, Matters, and Things, to the Sense, Judgment, Final End, Determination, and Decision of a General Meeting of the *Proprietors* and *Subscribers*, or the majority of them.

XVIII. That all Votes be made *per Ballott*.

☞ Note, *That so soon as the Subscriptions are compleated, and the Affairs thereof settled at Howe, &c. that then some fit and proper Persons of the Committee shall be appointed, and left in Trust with the* SECRET, *by the said* George Oldner, *he intending to go as soon as requir'd by the said Committee, to the* Court [illegible] *and* States *of* Holland, *&c. in order to* [illegible] *and Compleating his Treaties there; it being absolutely necessary to the Advantage of this great Undertaking, that the same should be done with all the wise and prudent Dispatch possible.*

FINIS.